

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES**  
**FREDERICK SENIOR CENTER**  
**May 9, 2011**

<b>DOA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Hal Ehart	Kitty Devilbiss	Rae Ann Butler		Larry Aronow
David Gray, Comm	Margaret Nusbaum	Louise Lynch		Dennis Ford
Millard Haines	Susan M. Ramsburg Recording Sec	Carolyn True		Wesley Queen
Jim Judd		Stephen Wilhide		
Diane Julian				
Carol Krimm, Alderman				
Mary Rice				
Debra Savageau				
Virginia Skelley				
Robert Wannemacher				

- I. Call to Order – Louise Lynch, Chair,** Hal Ehart chaired today's meeting in Louise and Raeann's absence.
- II. Welcome & Introductions –** Hal welcomed all attendees. Guests were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table.

- III. **Action on the Agenda** – No changes were made to the agenda.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the April 11, 2011 meeting were approved as written. All were in favor.
- V. **Commissioner's Report** – Commissioner Gray stated that he would like to revisit the issue of the transportation at the new shopping center, Clemson Corner. There is currently no bus stop at the center. It has been reported that people are crossing Rt 26 by foot to get to the new center. This is very unsafe for pedestrians and drivers.

The deadline for signatures on the petition for the charter board election is coming up soon. This is a chance to change the selected charter writing board which could possibly determine how our local government will be run in the future. If enough signatures are gathered, a special election will be held.

There was a sizeable amount of money found in the upcoming budget due to a rebid in the healthcare contract.

**Alderman's Report** – Alderman Krimm introduced Wesley Queen who is with the Legacy Leaders program. She invited him to speak with the Commission about this program which offers volunteer opportunities to talented retired seniors. Seniors who are transitioning from the workplace to retirement often want to put their expertise to good use in the community.

Carole commented that these meetings are helpful as it creates an opportunity to hear about issues significant to the county by way of Commissioner Gray. The city is still working through the budget process. Public meetings are still being held.

- VI. **Presentation about the Legacy Leaders Program, Wesley Queen** – Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy is a program that originated at the University of Maryland, College Park. It grew out of a research project that studied baby boomers and what they wanted to do during retirement. The participants are typically fifty plus in age and are retiring from active careers. It is set up in the Annapolis community. It is a public policy program which introduces retirees to the legislative process. There is a training process which leads up to placement in an assignment appropriate to the participant's background and profession. This program has been in place for ten years. There is no fee involved except for a \$100 administrative fee for which scholarship funds are available. This program is available in different levels of the government in various counties.

One of the key items needed to help with establishing a local Legacy Leader program is an established educational institute where you can

hold the classes. The next step would be to identify city and/or county departments to investigate volunteer needs. The curriculum would need to be developed and instructors made available. It is a good idea to set up the training time based on the department's need schedule so that volunteers can go right into a position when training has been completed. If funding is not available, a volunteer could be put in place to set up the program. There is a model available which could be adjusted to fulfill local needs.

There was some discussion on the sustainability of these volunteers. Some programs or departments may benefit from volunteers who are willing to make a more extensive commitment. This specific program seems to train volunteers for specific tasks for a limited amount of time. Different volunteer opportunities will appeal to different people. There is a volunteer program in Frederick called *Hands on Frederick*. There is also a volunteer program on the MDoA website.

Some of the drawbacks of using volunteers are they may be available for very specific hours which don't match the department needs. Paid staff may feel threatened by volunteers doing their jobs. A strong volunteer coordinator is needed to manage the program.

Wesley distributed some information sheets on the current Legacy Leaders. Carol will talk with city officials to see if there is any interest in program participation. She will report back to this commission.

**VII. Future of Senior Services, Louise Lynch** – This item was deferred to next month's meeting.

**VIII. Nomination Committee, Jim Judd** – There have been no other letters of interest for the four openings for new members. There will be no other County advertising until July. Members are encouraged to talk with individuals they know who may be interested in becoming a member.

Dennis Ford was interviewed by the Nominating Committee last month. He came to the Dept of Aging while researching Medicare and gap plans. He has been volunteering at the department with the insurance assistance program. He is not a provider of service and is very interested in participating as part of this Commission. The Nominating Committee moved to accept the recommendation. All were in favor. The recommendation will be sent to the BoCC for approval. There are still three openings with preference to be given to those over the age of sixty, not a senior service provider, who live in the Middletown, Adamstown, or the Thurmont area. It may be a good idea to advertise in the local municipal newspapers.

5/9/2011

**USM, Ginny Skelley –** Ginny distributed a final session review summary at today's meeting. Next week will be the final meeting for this season. The next meeting will be held in September. There was not a lot of legislation due to lack of funding.

Ginny also brought an article from "USA Today" regarding the expense of care giving and the need for government assistance. It is the family caregivers who are affected the most financially and mentally. They give up large blocks of time and energy to this role.

**IX. Summer Meeting Schedule, Hal Ehart for Louise Lynch,** Historically there has been a one month break during the summer schedule, and a few years ago there was been an all day retreat. This would be a bad time to skip a meeting because of the funding issues and lost programs. An extended retreat meeting would be the better plan.

**X. Announcements, All -**

There is new management in place at Citizens. There have been some suggestions for changes in staff expectations and benefits. The Board of Trustees has taken on the challenge of making a profit and depending on the County for less funding. Montevue will continue to need funding as their funding source is less lucrative. While Citizens may not be able to make a profit, they should be able to break even. It would be a good idea to have someone from this Commission on the Board of Trustees for these facilities to work as a liaison and bring current information to meetings.

Margaret Nusbaum will be retiring from the Citizen Services Division. Her last day will be June 30<sup>th</sup>. She has worked within this same division for the twenty-seven years she has been an employee of Frederick County.

The Department of Aging will be working on establishing a pool of volunteer opportunities. There will be a more formal process put into place this year. Susan Shelton, Assistant Director, resigned from the DoA. The position of Fiscal Manager was created in place of that position. Job responsibilities were changed to reflect the current needs of the department. This position was filled with a division transfer.

**XI. Adjournment –** The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg,  
Recording Secretary

Frederick County Commission on Aging  
5/9/2011

Upcoming Dates:

June 13, 2011, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at the Frederick Senior Center,  
Frederick, MD 21702

June 15, 2011, "Will my Money Outlast Me?", 5:00pm – 7:30pm at the Frederick  
Senior Center, Frederick, MD 21702

July 11, 2011, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at the Frederick Senior Center,  
Frederick, MD 21702

Elder Expo, Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am – 2:00pm